THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (d) keeping in view the growing demand for power in the country and the need for more investment in this sector, the Government of India, as part of further liberalization of the Foreign Direct Investment regime, has on June 12, 2000, decided to remove the upper limit for foreign direct investment in respect of projects relating to electric generation, transmission and distribution (other than atomic reactor power plants).

Financial package of SEBs from MNCs

1280. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) which are the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) that have accepted the reform and restructuring plan for the power sector;

(b) what are the details of the various financial packages received by these SEBs from multilateral agencies like World Bank, Asian Development Bank etc.;

(c) whether the performance of these SEBs with regard to generation, transmission and distribution of power has improved since then; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and Governments reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (d) Fifteen states (Orissa, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh. Karnataka, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Delhi, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh) have either constituted or notified the constitution of their State Electricity Regulatory Commission. The SERCs of Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Haryana and Karnataka have issued tariff orders.

Orissa, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Rajasthan have enacted their State Electricity Reforms Acts and unbundled their SEBs. Delhi and Madhya Pradesh have passed their Reform legislations. Gujarat has drafted its Reform Bill.

The reform process in Orissa has progressed farthest with complete privatisations of distribution in the State. The four subsidiary companies of GRIDCO have been disinvested in favour of the private companies. BSES Ltd.

has taken over the three distribution zones (WESCO, NORTHCO & SOUTHCO) and the US based AES Ltd. has taken over the Central Zone. The Power Generation Corporation (OPGC) has also been disinvested to the extent of 49%.

The following states have been sanctioned loans by World Bank for power sector reforms:

Orissa	US$ 350 million
U.P.	US$ 150 million
A.P.	US$ 210 million (First APL)
Haryana	US$ 60 million (First APL)
Rajasthan	US$ 150 million

ADB has sanctioned US$ 450 million for Gujarat.

Only Orissa has privatised its distribution and private distribution companies in Orissa have shown discernible improvement in billing and collection of revenue and in reducing transmission and distribution losses.

Power Purchasing Agreement

1281. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) has defaulted in the payment of bills to Enron from October, 2000;

(b) if so, the amount due every month according to the Power Purchasing Agreement (PPA) and what is the unit price of power purchasing from Enron;

(c) whether Enron has approached Union Government for clearing the dues as per the counter-guarantee signed by Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) have informed that they have defaulted in the payment to Dabhol Power Company (DPC) and the position of outstanding payment on due date is as below:—